*SFX: CICADA SOUNDS.

CREE CREE CREE CREE

DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS FOR BREAK? IT BEING OBON AND ALL...

I GUESS SO~...

THAT'S RIGHT, BUT IF YOU WORK HARD THIS WEEK, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO RELAX FOR THE REST OF THE BREAK!

CREE CREE CREE CREE

THERE'S AN UNEXPECTED AMOUNT OF WORK TO DO DURING SUMMER VACATION, ISN'T THERE?

Chapter 6

*T/N: KAMAKURA IS WELL-KNOWN FOR ITS TEMPLES, BUT IT ALSO HAS ACCESS TO BEAUTIFUL BEACHES.

*T/N: TOKYO BIG SIGHT IS A CONVENTION CENTER IN TOKYO WHERE COMIKET, A DOUJINSHI CONVENTION, IS HELD TWICE A YEAR, ONCE IN WINTER, AND ONCE AROUND OBON.

AH~...

Lower...

ARE YOU GOING ON A TRIP?

HM?

IN THE KNOW

I SEE~...

NO... WELL... IT'S STILL IN THE WORKS.

ATSUROU-KUN, DID YOU SEE MY TEXTS FROM LUNCH?

< TENGOKU MANABU

It's typical, but maybe Nasu~

Driving around Tateshina would be nice too. 14:

How about Hokkaido!? 14:12

I'VE GOT A TEXT...
From who?

...
AH~
LET ME CHECK NOW...

HM?
THE SIGHT-SEEING LIST!

ATSU-ROU-KUN?

THERE ARE VILLAS WE CAN STAY AT IN NASU, BUT IF WE WANT TO GO TO ONSEN...

Wooom

...MY MO-THER HAS BEEN HOSPITA-LIZED.

CREE
CREE
YOU DON'T THINK THIS IS WEIRD AT ALL?
Set!
Chirp
Chirp
Chirp
Chirp
CREE
CREE
...VROOM

YOSHIE-OBA-SAMA WILL BE THERE AF-TER ALL...

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO WORK... NO, THIS IS MORE FORMAL THAN WHAT YOU WEAR TO WORK.

Shut up.

IT'S JUST FOR TODAY.

Chirp

Chirp

Chirp

IS SHE THAT STRICT?

YOU COULD... SAY THAT...

AKARI HOSPITALIZED.
RETURN PROMPTLY.
TSURUMI YOSHIE

PU!

PULULULU

PULULULU

YES?

Oba-sama? I saw-

ATSUROU-SAN.

More importantly! What is my mom hospitalized...
SHE WILL BE DISCHARGED TOMORROW TO RECUPERATE AT HOME
AND FOLLOW UP LATER. THE DOCTOR SAYS IT'S AKIN TO OVERWORK.

HOW LONG AS IT BEEN SINCE YOU'VE LAST RETURNED TO YOUR OWN HOME?
... ...Yes.
...Well, um...

Gripe
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT THE MEN OF THE AOKI HOUSEHOLD WERE REAAAALLY SELFISH, BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE DIFFERENT, ATSUROU-SAN.
Gripe
THEY DO SAY NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS, BUT WHEN I HEARD YOU HAD NOT SHOWN YOUR FACE FOR OBON OR NEW YEARS, WELLLLLL- WAS I SHOCKED!
Gripe
Over-work...?

HA

Yes... No... Yes...
... Yes... Yes...
?

...
Seems like they decided it was fatigue from over-working herself.
They didn't find anything abnormal.
?
Is your mother alright?

The trip is...
...
Sorry.

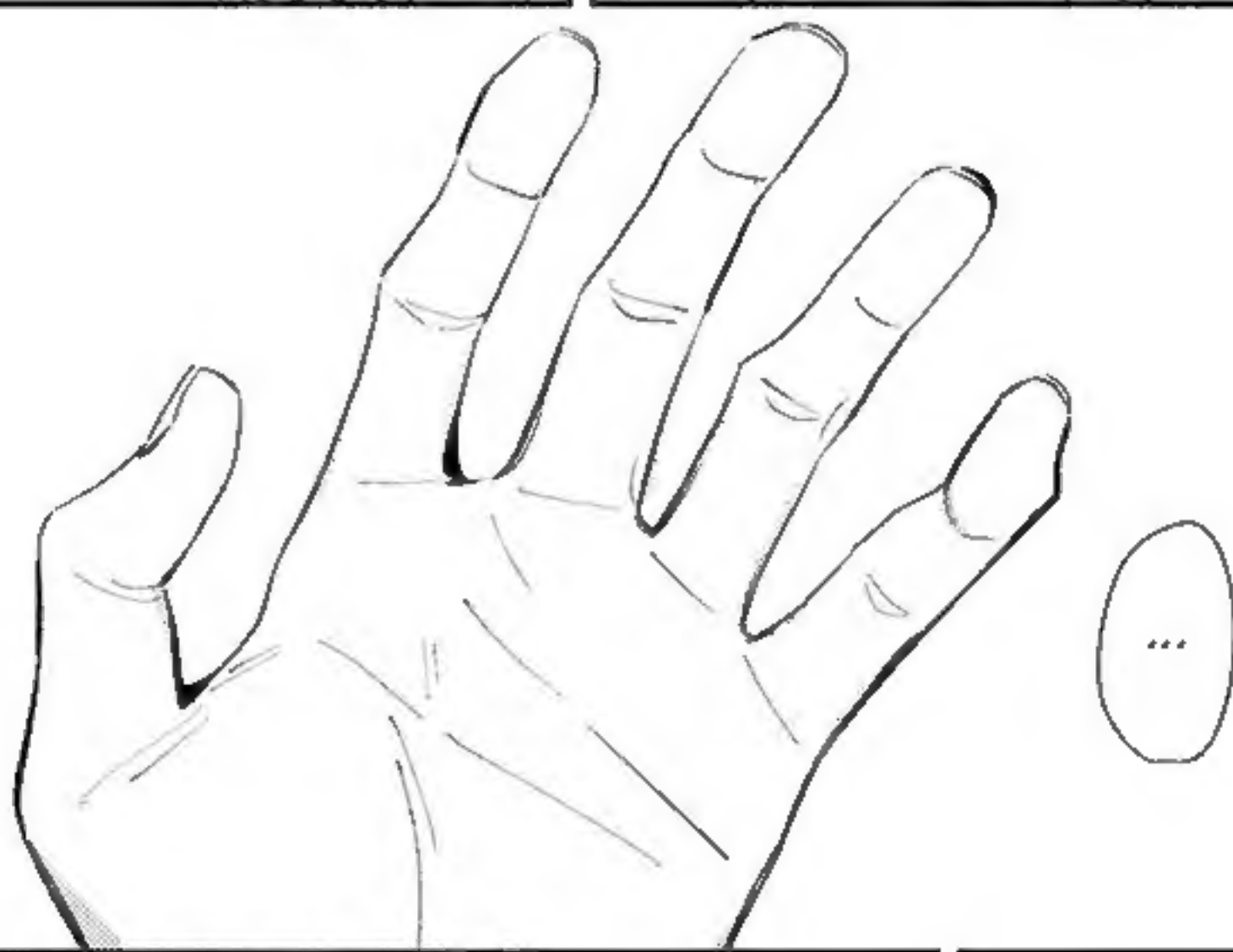
Thanks.

You have to go home.
Don't worry about it.

...But honestly, I'd rather not...

I don't like... home...

HA?!
...
Ah...
Atsurou-kun?
...
I'm going to grab some water.
I'm feeling thirsty after that call...
Nah, it's nothing.
...


...

Hm? Where to?

Shall I come too?
...

chirp
chirp
chirp
chirp
chirp
CREE
CREE
CREE

THE CO-WORKER I MET BY CHANCE IS, JUST LIKE THAT, COMING TO MY FAMILY HOME. THAT'S REALLY NOT WEIRD?

YES~! I MET UP WITH MY COWORKER, AOKI-SENSEI, BY **CHANCE!** I WAS SURPRISED MYSELF!

AHAHAHAHA

MY, GIVEN THAT IT WAS BY **CHANCE** I DO FEEL BAD RECEIVING SUCH AN EXQUISITE GIFT!

OHOHOHO

OH MY~!

YOU MET UP WITH A CO-WORKER WHO WORKS AT THE SAME SCHOOL IN TOKYO AS YOU, BY **CHANCE?**

Across from the butsudan

YOU WON'T FIND AKARI-SAN ON THE SECOND FLOOR. SHE'S IN THE BACK ROOM.

OKAY

...AH, ATSUROU-SAN.

HOHOHO

HAHAHA

...

I'LL CHECK ON MOTHER.

*T/N: BUTSUDAN: BUDDHIST ALTAR

AND OBA-SAMA WAS EVEN WITH HER WHEN SHE FELL.

I'm surpr-sed.

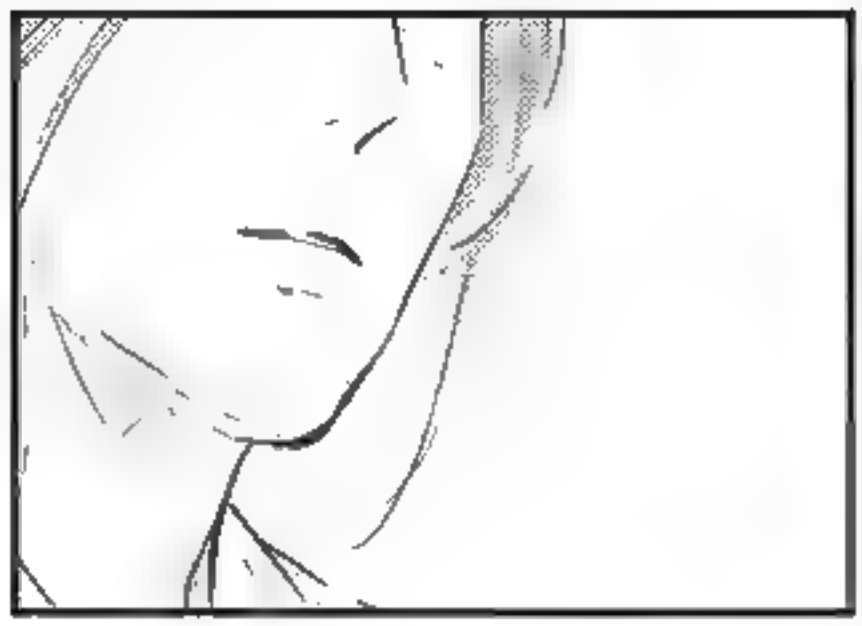
I DIDN'T REALIZE MOTHER AND OBA-SAMA WERE TALKING THAT MUCH.

IN THIS HOUSE,

DID SHE CHANGE HER BEDROOM?

...

MOTHER HAS ALWAYS BEEN ALONE.



Knock Knock
MOTHER? IT'S ATSUROU.

slide...
...IT'S BEEN SOME TIME,
ATSUROU-SAN.

IT TRULY IS STRANGE, TENGOKU-SAN!

HAHAHAHA

BE TRUTHFUL NOW, ATSUROU-SAN ASKED YOU TO COME, DIDN'T HE?

Hahaha, it's a lot of fun!

It must be difficult to be a teacher, huh

clink

JUST WHAT KIND OF HOME WAS THE GENTLE, SERIOUS, AND OVERLY CONSIDERATE AOKI-SENSEI RAISED IN?

NO.

THAT CHILD RESEMBLES HIS FATHER, KOTAROU... HE WAS A TIMID GOOD-FOR-NOTHING WHO COULD NEVER SAY WHAT HE WANTED.

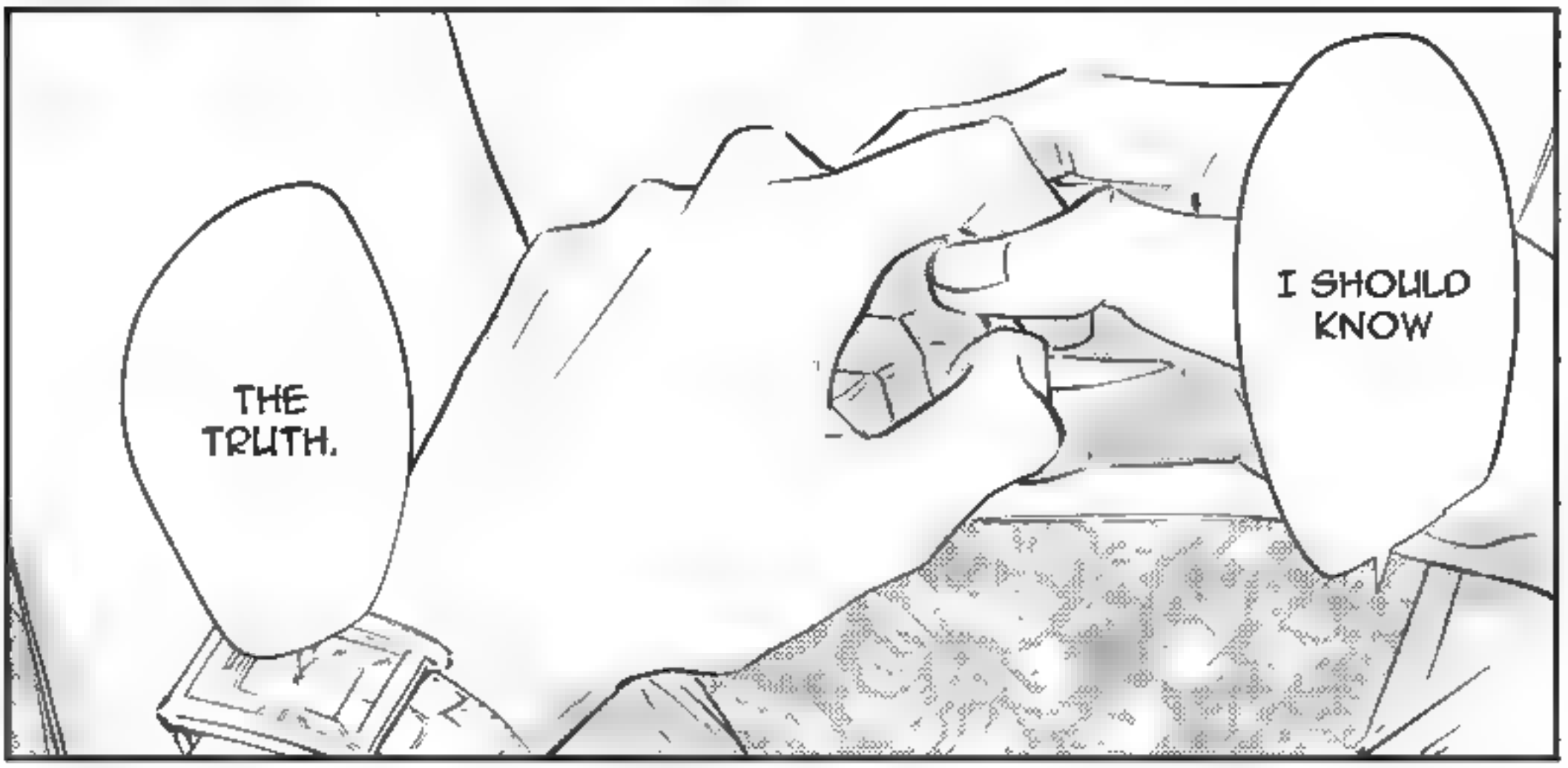
?

KNOW WHAT?

I ASKED HIM TO BRING ME.

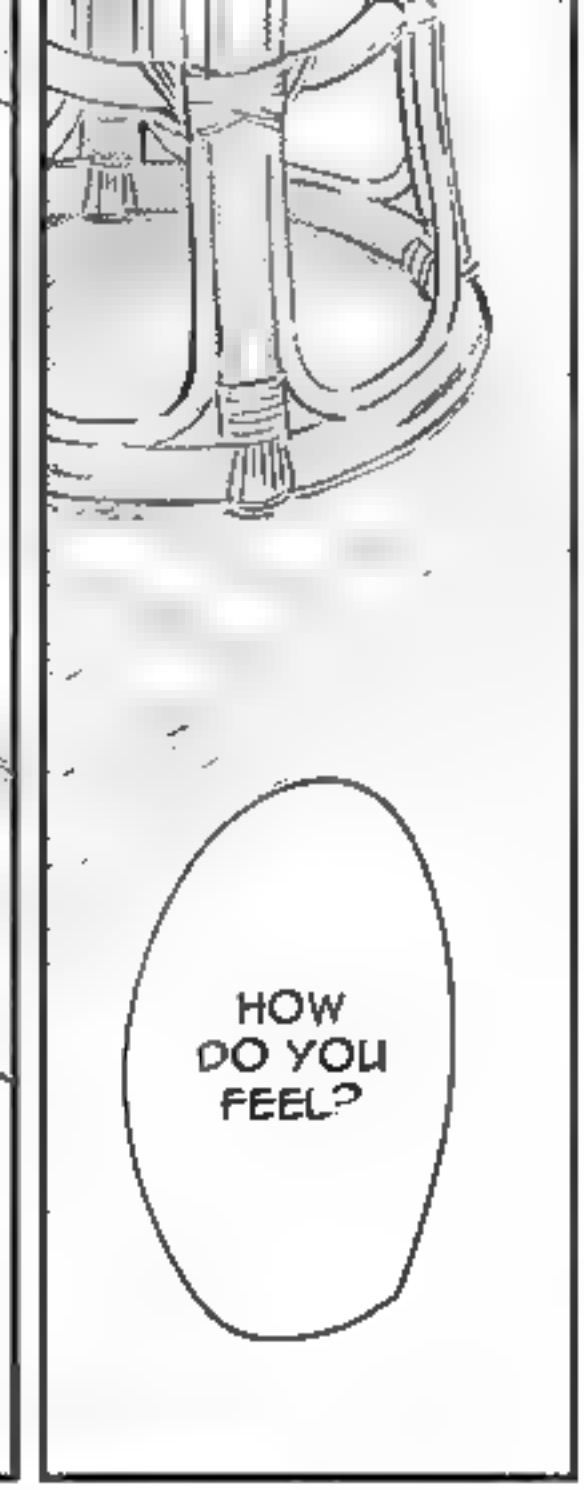
I WANTED TO KNOW...

YOU CERTAINLY HAVE A WAY WITH WORDS.


THE TRUTH.
I SHOULD KNOW

IS THAT ALL? I'M GLAD.

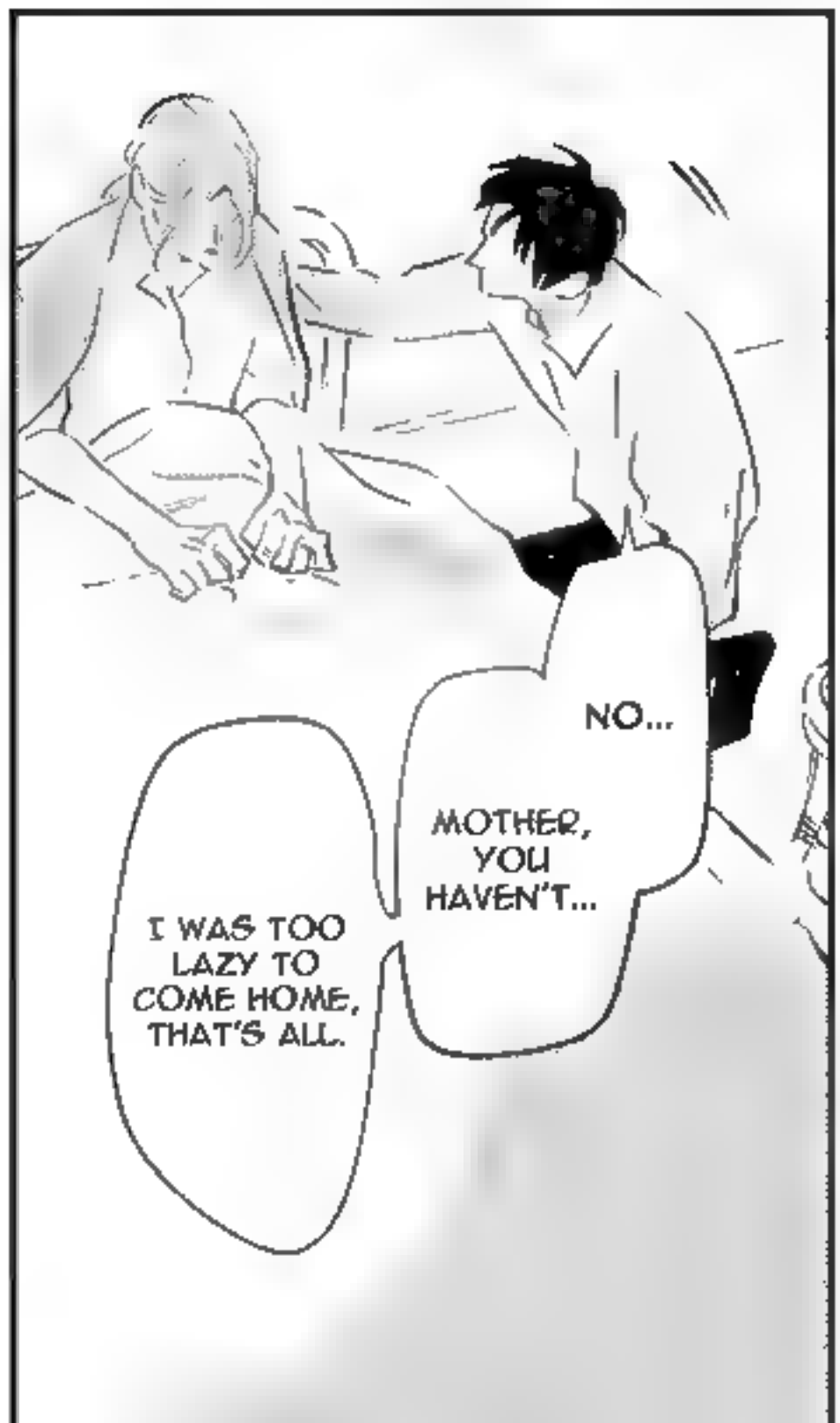
THE HOSPITA-LIZATION WAS JUST FOR THE CHECKUPS.
AH, YES, I'M BETTER NOW.
I HEARD YOU WERE OVER-WORKING YOURSELF.


HOW DO YOU FEEL?

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE... THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR GRAND-FATHER'S PASSING.
OH NO,
ATSUROU-SAN, THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO APO-LOGIZE
...I'M SORRY, I HAVEN'T BEEN HOME IN SO LONG

...
...

IT'S YOUR MOTHER WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE.


NO...
MOTHER, YOU HAVEN'T...
I WAS TOO LAZY TO COME HOME, THAT'S ALL.

IT CAN'T BE HELPED THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO COME HOME.
Squeeze...
...I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY, TOO,

FOR MAKING YOU FEEL SO LO-NELY.

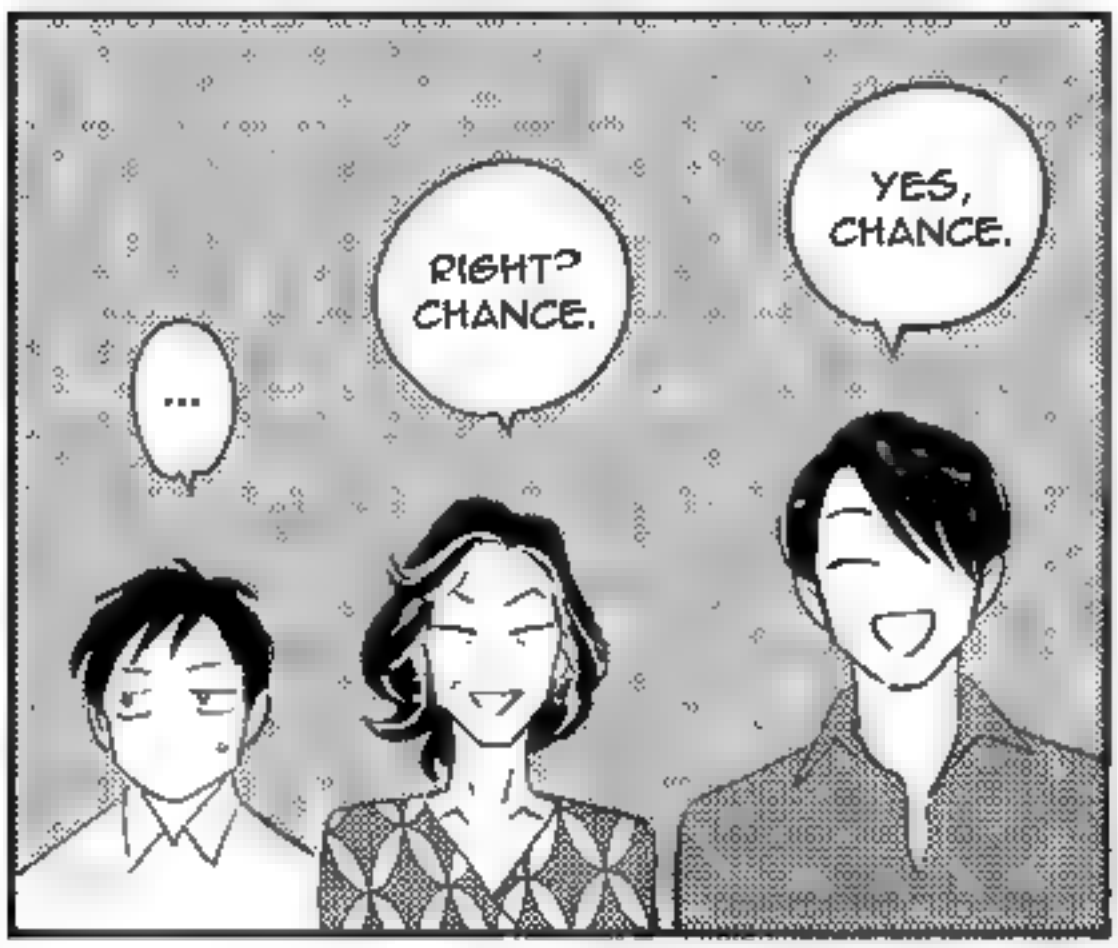
...ATSUROU, YOU'RE REALLY A GOOD BOY.

WERE YOU ABLE TO CATCH UP WITH ATSUROU-SAN?
Yes, thank you very much.
AKARI-SAN, THE COLOR'S RETURNED TO YOUR FACE.
STRIDE
STRIDE
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
EH?
?
...
WELL, YOUR FACE IS...

AND YOU ARE...

PLEASE STAY AS YOU ARE.
NO, I APOLOGIZE FOR THE IMPOSI-TION.
I'M SO SORRY YOU HAVE TO MEET ME IN THIS STATE.

AT-SUROU-SAN'S...
I'M AOKI-SENSEI'S FRIEND AND COWORKER, TENGOKU.
I APOLO-GIZE FOR THE LATE INTRODU-CTIONS.


...
RIGHT? CHANCE.
YES, CHANCE.

MY, WHAT CHANCE!
IT SEEMS HE CAME ON A TRIP AND RAN INTO ATSUROU-SAN BY CHANCE ON HIS WAY HERE.

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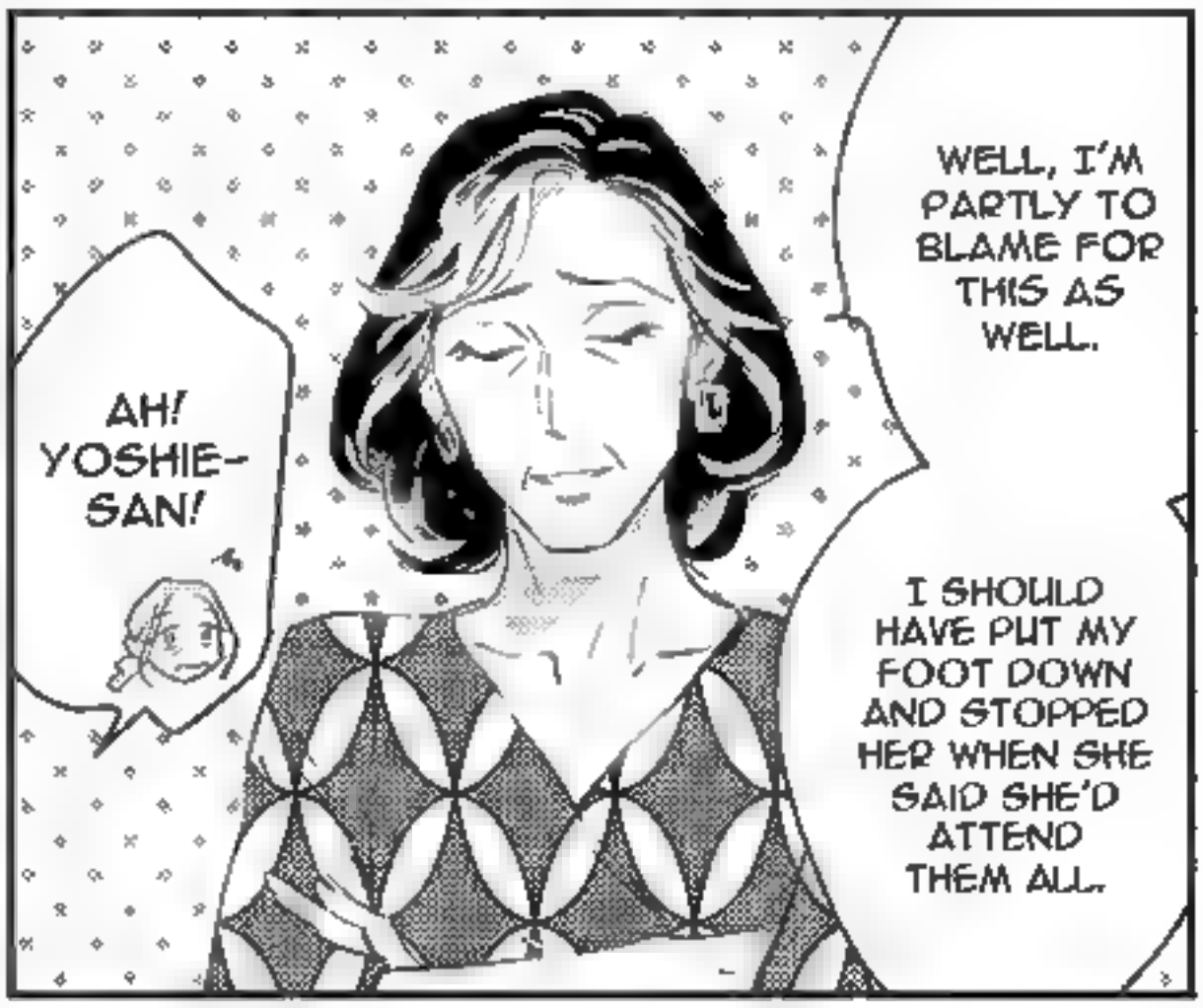
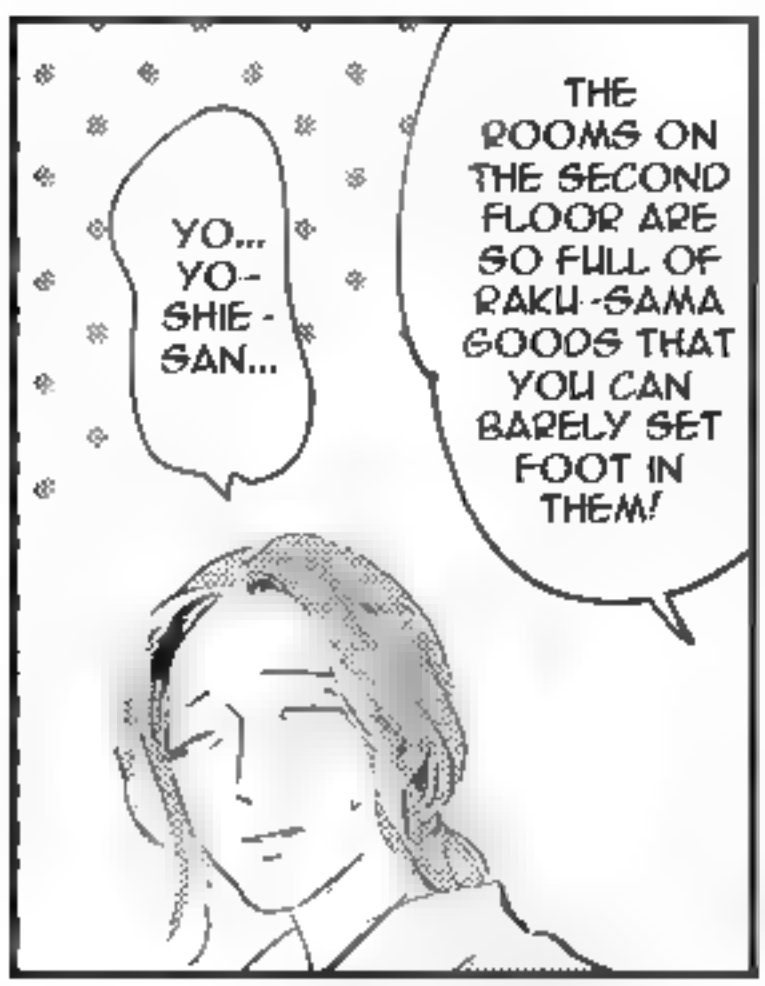
NEW

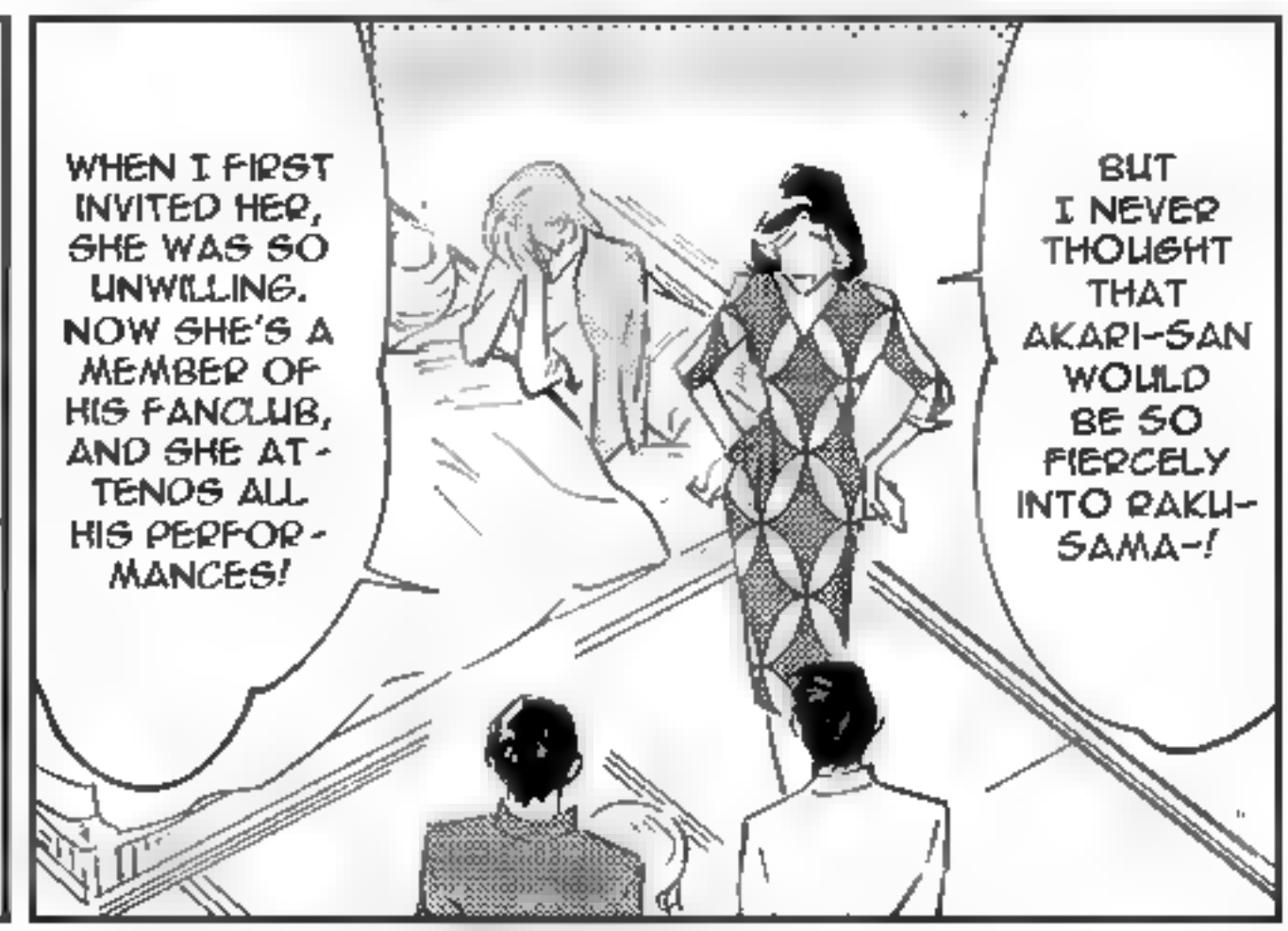
THE YOUNG STAR WHO'S DRAGGED HER INTO JAPAN'S MUSICAL WORLD, NISHIO RAKUTAROU-SAMA!



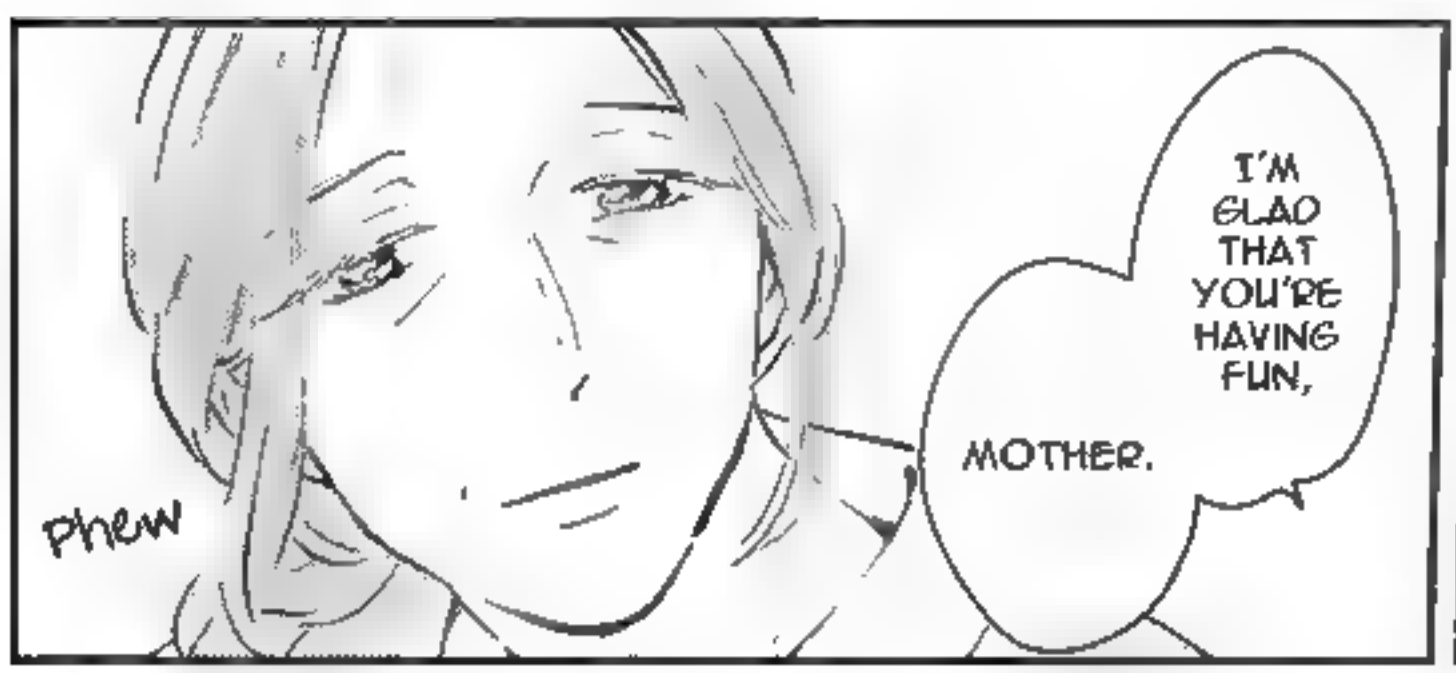
THESE PAST FEW YEARS, HE'S PUT HIS ALL INTO EXPANDING HIS SINGING CAREER. HE'S NO STRANGER TO STAGE PLAYS, COMMERCIALS, DRAMAS... YOU NAME IT. AKARI-SAN BECAME RAKU-SAN'S FAN AT THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT TWO YEARS AGO. THE OTHER DAY, A FRIEND OF MINE ENDED UP WITH A STRAINED BACK AFTER GOING TO ONE OF HIS GIGS, SO I SHOULD HAVE BEEN WARY...

I SEE...

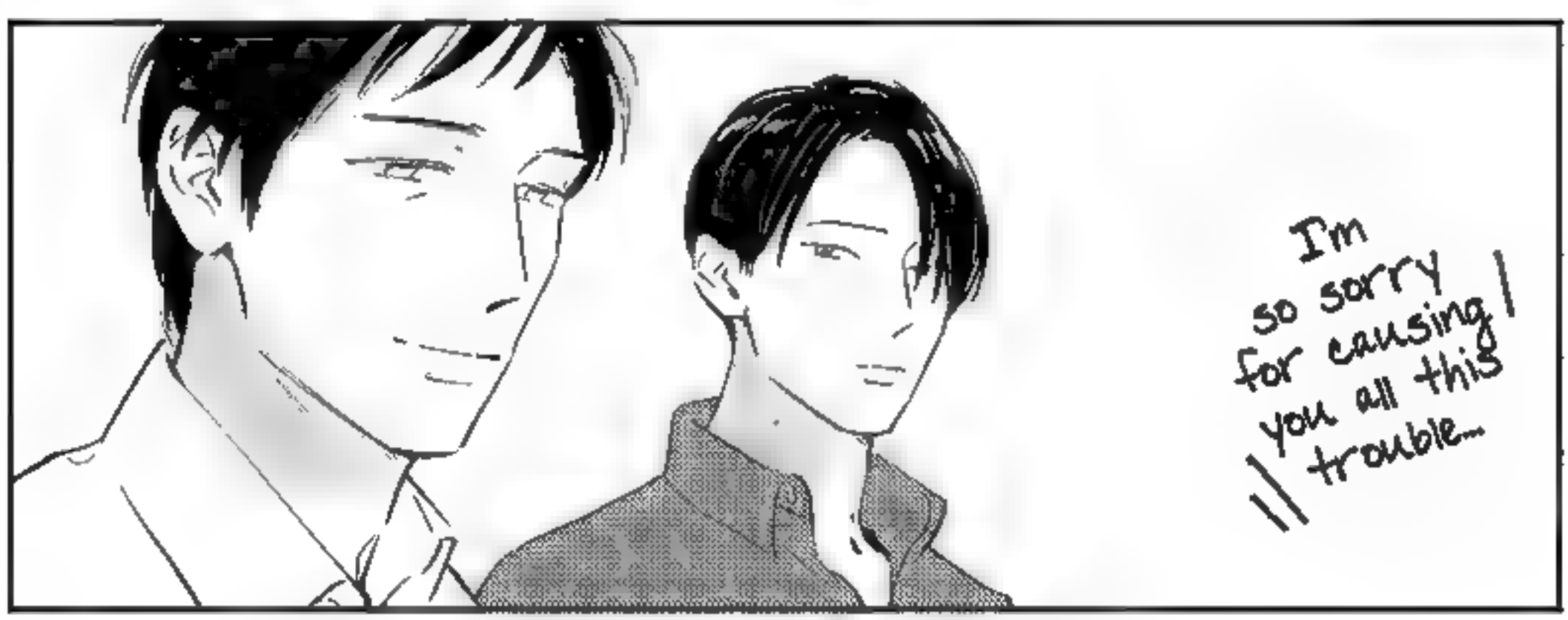




I THINK IT'S FINE.
OF COUR-SE.


I'M GLAD THAT YOU'RE HAVING FUN, MOTHER.
phew

But you need more stamina if you're going to attend all his performances!


I'm so sorry for causing you all this trouble...

...AH.
RIGHT.

I THINK I SHOULD TAKE MY LEAVE SOON.
AOKI-SENSEI,

BUT COULD I HAVE YOU SEE ME TO THE STATION?
THAT'S RIGHT,
IT'S ...
I'M SO SORRY,

...SURE.

I DON'T SEEM TO REMEMBER THE WAY.

Whooosh

I'M CERTAIN THIS WASN'T THE PATH WE TOOK LAST TIME, THOUGH?

JUST A LITTLE DETOUR.

I CAME HERE ON MY BIKE A LOT AS A CHILD,

WHEN I WANTED TO BE ALONE.

...MY GRANDFATHER WAS AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL.

ENOUGH THAT I HAD TO BE WARY OF HOW PEOPLE SAW ME.

HIS NAME WAS WELL-KNOWN IN THE TOWN...

MY MOTHER..
WAS ALWAYS WATCHING. I WANTED TO ESCAPE.

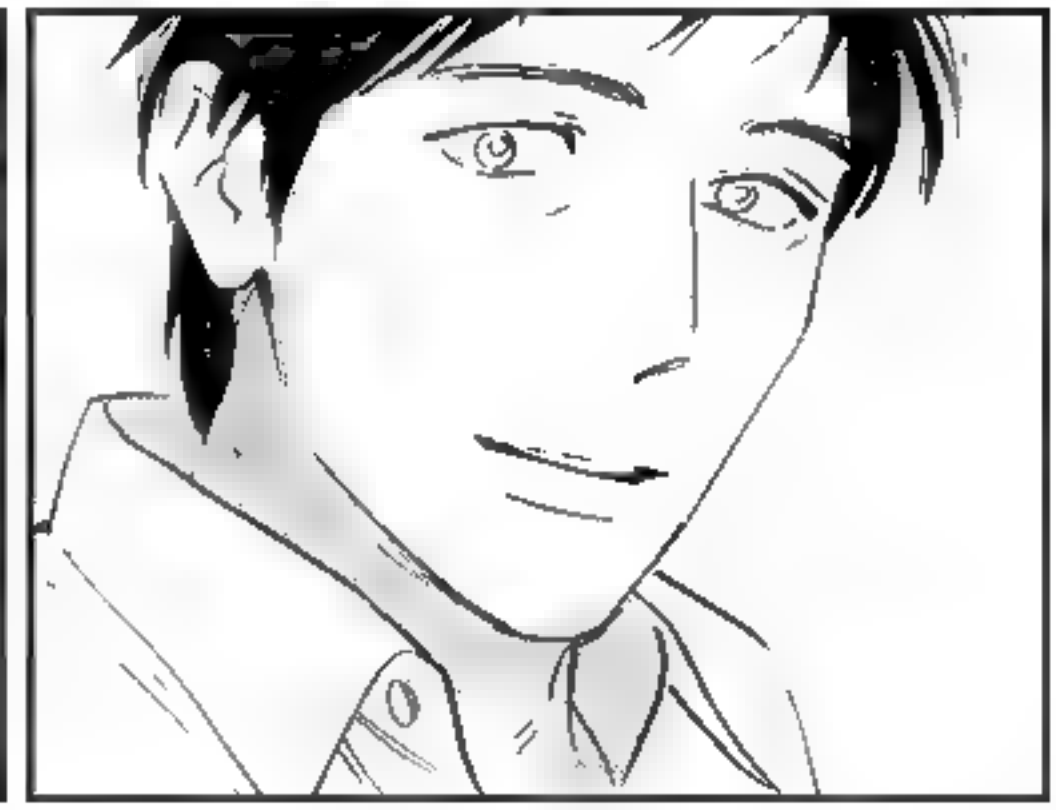
I FELT THAT SOMEONE..

BUT AT SOME POINT,
THAT UNEASE SETTLED.

I DON'T REALLY GET THIS RAKU-SAMA THOUGH.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO LOVE THEM BECAUSE THEY'RE FAMILY.

WELL, I'M GLAD SHE'S DOING WELL!

THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO FORGIVE THEM BECAUSE YOU LOVE THEM.



MY MOTHER THREW THEM ALL AWAY!!

RASE!

MY VIDEOS! MY MOVIE MAGAZINES! MY FIGURES! MY GAMES! MY MANGA!

MINE!

"Atsurou, you're really a good boy."

THE PEOPLE WHO HURT YOU.

DON'T FORGIVE THEM.

GRIP!
...
MANABU?
ABOUT WHAT?
I'VE BEEN THINKING FOR A WHILE.

THAT YOU AND I SHOULD BREAK UP.

Oni to Tengoku -Sai- v3 ch6

by Oyoshikawa Kyoko and Aga Naomi

SCANNER: SPRING APPLES
TRANSLATOR: KIRIEFAIRIE
EDITOR: NANANEECHAN
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